(b) Yes, Sir, but due to severe constraint of resources, the Railways are not considering creation of any new Division for the present.

Production of apples

2748. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that apple production in the country is as low as 8 tons per hectare as against 30 tons in Western countries;

(b) the per hectare production of apple in apple producing States in the country;

(c) the quantity of apples exported during the last three years;

(d) the step being taken to increase the production of apples in apple producing States; and

(e) the results achieved so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Apple being a non-forecast crop, official estimates on per hectare production of apple in various States are not available. However, as per rough estimates, per hectare production of apple in the country is low as compared to that in some other countries. Rough estimates of per hectare production of apple in important States are as follows:

(in tonnes)

State	Per hectare production of apple (1987-88)
1. Jammu and Kashmir	6.33
2. Uttar Pradesh	3.27
3. Himachal Pradesh	4.71

(c) The Quantity of apples exported during 1985-86 to 1987-88 is as follows.

in tonnes

Year	Quantity exported
1985-86	4443
1986-87	6101
1987-88	4038

(d) and (e) Various steps such as production and supply of good planting material, demonstration of improved agro-techniques, introduction of spur varieties of apple, supply of inputs at subsidised rates, adoption of plant protection measures, etc. are being taken for increasing production of apples in apple producing States.

Due to various steps taken by Government, area under apple cultivation has increased.

Printing 100 per cent vegetarian on food packets

2749. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that numerous representations have been received by Government to ask manufac